

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Temporary Public Use Restrictions Terminated for Portions of South Central Oregon

Klamath Falls, OR— Lakeview, Ore. - Sep. 5, 2023 – Temporary public use restrictions on the Fremont-Winema National Forest, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lakeview District, and Sheldon-Hart Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex are being lifted, effective Wednesday, September 6th 00:01 a.m.

Crater Lake National Park will lift fire restrictions on Friday, September 8th at 00:01 a.m.

Public use restrictions within the Klamath River Canyon, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Lakeview District, effected June 16th, will remain active until rescinded, along with Oregon Department of Forestry Public Regulated Use Restrictions that were put into effect by fire officials on July 12th.

The “Fire season in effect” declaration on June 16th enacted regulations restricting debris burning and timber harvest operations. **Wildland and structural fire protection agencies in Klamath and Lake County have agreed to prohibit all outdoor debris burning. Forest operations that require a permit to operate power-driven machinery now are required to have** fire tools, on-site water supply, and watchman service **on privately owned forest land.** The release of sky lanterns is prohibited during any time of the year. The discharge of exploding targets and the discharge of tracer ammunition is not permitted during the duration of the fire season.

Industrial Fire Precaution Level II (IFPL) Limited Shutdown will remain in effect on public lands administered by the Fremont-Winema National Forest, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Lakeview District, and Sheldon-Hart Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

The following may operate only between the hours of 8 P.M. and 1 P.M.:

- Power saws except at loading sites;
- Feller-bunchers with rotary head saws;
- Cable yarding;
- Blasting;
- Welding, cutting, or grinding of metal.

The lifting of the Public Use Restrictions means that campfires are now allowed outside of designated campgrounds. However, fire officials remind the public to continue to be cautious with any possible ignition sources and ensure that all campfires are thoroughly extinguished. Remember to have plenty of water nearby and a shovel on hand when maintaining a campfire.

For more information on restrictions please visit: <https://www.scofmp.org/>

For more information on the ODF Public Regulated Use Closure, please visit: <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/pages/restrictions.aspx>.